



OGMCOAL DNR &lt;ogmcoal@utah.gov&gt;

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## Fwd: Update for Deer Creek Water Issue

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**Steve Christensen** <stevechristensen@utah.gov>  
To: OGMCOAL DNR <ogmcoal@utah.gov>

Mon, Aug 10, 2020 at 7:15 AM

Deer Ck- Incoming

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Oakley, Dennis (PacifiCorp)** <Dennis.Oakley@pacificorp.com>

Date: Fri, Aug 7, 2020 at 10:03 AM

Subject: Update for Deer Creek Water Issue

To: Steve Christensen &lt;stevechristensen@utah.gov&gt;

Cc: Karl Houskeeper (karlhouskeeper@utah.gov) &lt;karlhouskeeper@utah.gov&gt;, Kendra Hinton &lt;khinton@utah.gov&gt;, Owen, James (PacifiCorp) &lt;James.Owen@pacificorp.com&gt;

Steve,

Here's another update of the ongoing activities concerning the water issues at the Deer Creek Mine.

Yesterday we uncovered another unknown culvert. This discovery was found adjacent to the original channel excavation below the McKinnon portals. We uncovered approximately 50 to 75 feet of 24" CMP. This culvert appeared to be installed in alignment to the belt portal and routed toward to the southeast. The rogue culvert was found to be installed below the 8' main bypass culvert in Deer Creek canyon. The bearing down canyon appeared to follow the same route as the reclaimed channel. I believe this culvert is the major culprit of the disappearing water. I say major because it does not account for all the water flowing out of the side hill. There seems to be a base flow from this first culvert of about 25 gpm. This base flow will continue to flow regardless. I will need to plan for a permanent flow.

I also mapped the route of the first culvert we found and have staked the end of it in the field. The good news is that its end is 50' north of the reclaimed channel which pretty much explains flows out of the side hill. The bad news is that it is 70' below the reclaimed surface and no way to excavate it. In the coming days I will be collecting data of the second culvert found and map it to get a better understanding of the subsurface flows at the mine site. I believe I'm close to developing a permanent plan for the repair/remediation of the mine site.

Let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Thanks,

## Dennis Oakley

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